

# Cactus Needles

SOUTHWEST COSTUMERS' GUILD

Volume IX, Number 5

May 2002

## SouthWest Costumers Guild

meets generally on the last Sunday of the month, 1:00PM at members homes or someplace fun. The Guild dues for our chapter are \$10 per year, an optional additional \$4 for membership in the International Costumer's Guild, and \$18 to receive the International Costumer's Quarterly. \$8 to receive only our chapter newsletter. Send money to Kim Martin, she will notify the Editor.

**SWCG Webpage:** [www.southwestcostumersguild.org](http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org)

**International Costumers Guild:** [www.costume.org](http://www.costume.org)

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**(Deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month)**

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Bonnie Love-Svirskas

## MEETING: May 26, 2002 - *Post-Con*

**Brainstorm\*** Guild meeting at Stephanie's place. Decompress after Leprecon and plan for future activities.

**Directions:** From I-17 exit onto Glendale ave. Go west on Glendale avenue to 35th Ave and turn north onto 35th into the far left lane. The first street where you can turn left (west) is Myrtle, go west on Myrtle to 37th Drive and turn north into the cul-de-sac. The address is 7213 N 37th Drive Phone is 602-973-2341



## International Costumers Guild ICG President's Message May 2002

Dear ICG Members

I hope that all are doing well and creating wonderful costumes. After all the purpose of all this craziness we do with the ICG is costuming. I myself am on a serious costume frenzy. I have a three-day event at the end of the month for which I need two 1850s day dresses and one evening dress. I am going to a place in Northern California by the name of Columbia State Park. This is in a part of California nicknamed "Gold Rush" country and where gold was found in 1849 (as I'm sure all of you remember from grade school history). Columbia is a town built during, for, and because of the Gold Rush. A few decades ago, the town was renovated to its original condition and every year they have a celebration called "Diggins Days." Historical reenactors from all over the state come and spend several days in costume doing what they do — reenacting. The park is open to the public during the day, but in the evening (specifically Saturday), they close it down for nothing but the costumed reenactors and have a casino party. My brother (who has gone the last several years) told me I could wear my 1880s bustle dress for the casino night, but no, I



# CALENDAR

## International Costumers Guild ICG President's Message April 2002

**NOTE:** Information in this calendar is provided as a service to our guild please contact the individual organizations for verification of information.

**June 30, 2002 - Sewing Project\*** Guild meeting/workshop at Randall's place. Get together and build something! Possibly cloaks for the Devonshire Faire, Possibly practice drapery-making. Bring your sewing tools.

**September 6-8, 2002 - Coppercon 22**, a Fan-Run SF Convention at Embassy Suites Phoenix North, 2577 West Greenway Road, Phoenix, Arizona. Author Guest of Honor: Barbara Hambly, Special Effects Guest of Honor: Mojo. Visit [www.coppercon.org](http://www.coppercon.org) for details.

*\* Indicates a SWCG-sponsored event.*

### ICG President

(cont'd from page 1)

wouldn't hear of it. I MUSTN'T be historically inaccurate (okay, the truth is its just another excuse to stress myself out and make yet another dress). Hey, I don't care what you say, I'm NOT a clothes horse — well, maybe an historical clothes horse.

I do want to speak of one important piece of ICG information. I meant to add this to my last message, but in the process of everything else I needed to put in I decided to wait until this month. I want to make one correction to the minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting. Per the report, it was stated that I, as president, had not made or provided a report. This is incorrect. I specifically stated in my February message that was to serve as my presidential report. Additionally, there will be another correction forthcoming from Sharon Trembley within the next month. Other than this, there is nothing else "official" going on for the moment.

Now, one last thing, and let me put it in your ear just as a little ruminating idea. Do you usually go to Costume Cons, but this year didn't because it was in Australia? Are you "Jones-ing" for a costume convention? How coming to Costume College in California to get your "fix?" Now, it doesn't have the competitions, but it does provide programming and classes up the wahoo (that's an official term, by the way). It also is a large (approx. 300) gathering of costumers and is three days of costume overload and fun. If you want more info on it, check out the website at [www.costumecollege.org](http://www.costumecollege.org). Yes, I know this is a shameless plug for Costume College, but it benefits everybody in our community and should be experienced by all. If nothing else, check out the website and see what's offered.

Well, that's it for now. Back to my sewing machine and general insanity. Now, where DID I put that cat!?!?

Sincerely,  
Darla Kruger  
President, ICG

Prez Message - April 2002

Here we are with four months of 2002 under our belts. I wish I could say it's been uneventful for the world, but alas, that would not be true. However, it seems generally we are all getting back into the swing of normalcy (or as normal as any of us in the costuming community ever are). Life goes on and so does costuming. I, myself, just went out and bought quite a bit of fabric. I swear, though, these are projects that I will finish before the end of May. In fact, I have no choice. I'm going to a full weekend reenactment event in Columbia, California and have to have three day dresses done by then. What a frenzy I create for myself.

On another and important note, many of you may have already heard, but I want to make an official announcement. The Utah Costumers' Guild has one their bid to host CC23. The Con will actually take place in Ogden, Utah, and as time goes by, the Chair of CC23 will send us information on membership, hotel, and all the other wonderful stuff. I'm hoping that many (in fact, a lot) of you decide to go to Costume Con 23 and find out for yourselves how much fun this type of costume gathering can be.

With regard to Utah's successful bid, I do have something to ask of you. Unfortunately, there was some irregularity with regard to the vote. This does not mean that Utah will have their winning bid pulled, but it did result in the CC23 committee not receiving the seed money that is normally part of the bidding process. Regrettably, there has been no way to trace who bought voting memberships at CC20 (we have been unable to get a response from our Australia chapter with regard to this information). Therefore, I would ask you to make a small donation of \$5 or \$10 dollars to get Utah started. We know how hard it can be to fund these type of events and this is one way to keep costuming alive. So, if you can find your way into making a small donation to help, I would (and so would the Utah Costumers' Guild) be grateful. The information on where you can send the money is as follows: make your checks payable The Utah Costumers' Guild and send them to 289 W. Hidden Hollow Drive, Orem, UT 84058-7552. Make a note on the check that it is a donation for CC23. Don't forget, your donation is tax deductible.

Then, once all the membership information begins to flow out on CC23, buy a membership, go to Utah, and attend Costume Con 23. You will have lots of fun, meet great people, and experience stuff you can only get at a Costume Con. I know I'll be there!

Sincerely,  
Darla Kruger  
President, International Costumers' Guild

Paper or Plastic? Nah, I have

# Randwulf's Quick and Dirty Shopping Bag.

by Randall Whitlock

Fabric: Sturdy Canvas or Duck

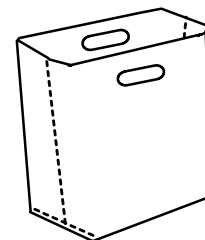
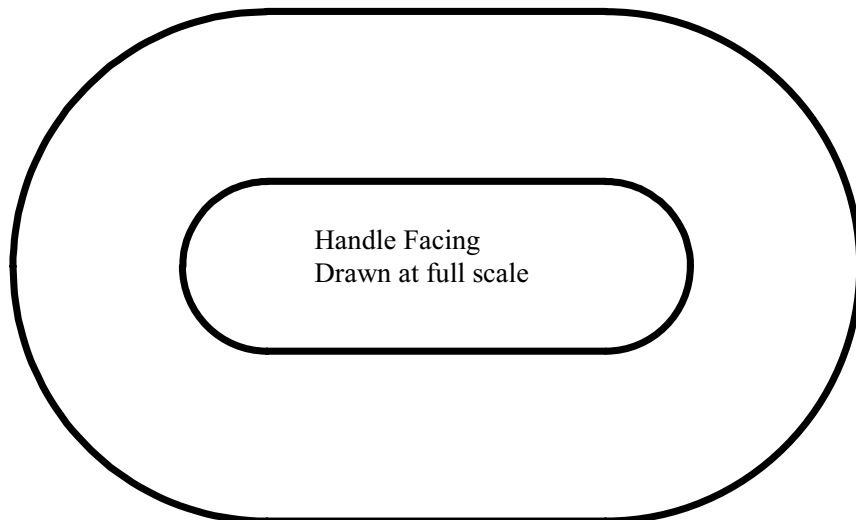
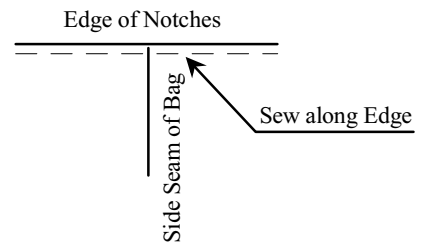
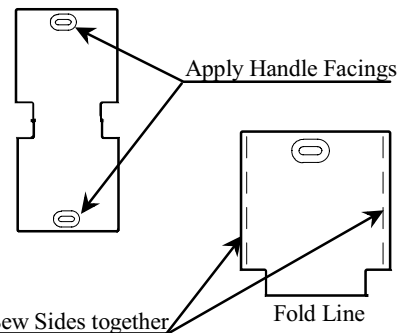
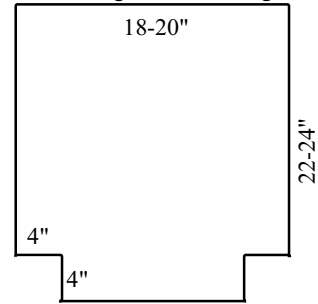
Option 1: 1/2 yard of 44 to 45-inch fabric makes 1 bag.

Option 2: 1 1/3 yard of 60-inch fabric makes 3 bags.

1. Cut a rectangle 18 or 20 inches wide and 44 to 48 inches long. You can use the selvage edge of 44-45 inch fabric for ends, or cut three parallel rectangles 20 inches wide on 1 1/3 yard of 60-inch fabric
2. Fold the fabric over to form a new rectangle about 20 inches wide and 22 to 24 inches long.
3. Cut 2 square notches, 4 inches on a side, out of the folded corners of the rectangle.
4. Cut out the Handle Facing pattern from the bottom of this page. Use it to mark out 2 handle facings on the two rectangles you have just cut from the corners of the bag (4 by 8 inches when unfolded). Cut out the outside edge of the handle facings. Finish the outer edge if you have a serger.
5. Pin the handle facings to the right sides of the bag so that the outer edge is about an inch from the top and the handle is centered from right to left. Sew through the inside line of the handle facing. Cut out the inside of the handle facing, leaving about 1/4 inch margin.
6. Turn the handle facing through its hole to the wrong side of the fabric. Sew it down around the inside and outside edges.
7. Sew the sides of the bag together. Finish the top edge if necessary.
8. Pull the inside corners of the square notches apart so the notch collapses to a straight line with the side seam of the bag terminating at the middle of the line. Sew along this straight line. This will form a square bottom for your bag. Turn the bag rightside out.

Shopping Bag is Finished!

Finish Edge or Use Selvage



Finished Bag